

Frontier Chemical plans cleanup of Quarry Lake

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PENDLETON — Representatives of Frontier Chemical Waste Process Inc. met with the Town Board Thursday night in an effort to reaffirm their "corporate responsibility" for the cleanup project of Quarry Lake.

"We feel we can tackle it and resolve the issue," Frontier President Richard Schultz said. "Of course it will cost, and we will pay for it."

"We want to voluntarily take on the responsibility of cleaning the lake," Martin Abraham, another Frontier representative said.

They unveiled a remedial scheme that calls for the construction of two treatment ponds each holding about one million gallons. The contaminated water from Quarry Lake would be pumped

into a pond for treatment and then be discharged into the sewer system.

Frontier would pump the effluent to the nearest manhole, which would carry the liquid to the Niagara County Sewer District No. 1 treatment plant. Meanwhile, the second pond would be filling and the same process continued.

Frank Nerone, sewer district engineer, said he wants to be sure that what is pumped out of the lake is neutralized before it enters the sewers. Nerone previously estimated that it would cost Frontier about \$60,000 in sewer fees to discharge all of the liquid. He now thinks the figure to be closer to \$50,000.

Calvin Schmiede, a representative of R.B. McMullen Associates, a consulting firm, said once the lake is emptied the bottom sludge would be dredged to one area. There lime and other materials

would be added to harden it.

"Then innocuous materials, such as brick and concrete, are added to provide a heavy fill," he said.

Schmiede said the pile would be topped by a clay cap to reinforce the fill. Grass would then be planted to cover the landfill.

State Department of Environmental Conservation authorities have been working with Frontier to help coordinate the removal of those liquid wastes from the lake.

DEC engineer John Beecher said he would agree with the latest remedial plan only if it did not exceed state standards. He said the priority concern is the removal of the water before the possibility of an overflow.

Beecher said the water should be drained by February 1981. Otherwise,

serious problems could occur if the contaminated liquid comes in contact with ground level water. Frontier representatives said they hope to have the lake drained by late summer.

Town Supervisor Larry Chapman asked Frontier Chemical for a "tacit agreement in writing specifying their analytical findings of the water and bottom sludge." He said we must improve public confidence in the matter and let them know exactly what is down there.

The lake reportedly contains iron, copper, zinc, nickel and other metals and was used to neutralize waste acids during the company's operation at the site.

Councilman Robert Kramer he agrees with Chapman's request for a report because of landfill situations like Love Canal.



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